

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

DEC 1 1 2015

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

Mr. John J. Kim Chief Legal Counsel Illinois Environmental Protection Agency 1021 North Grand Avenue East Post Office Box 19276 Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

Re: Referral

Superior Foreign Exchange Company

EPA ID No.: ILR000176503

Dear Mr. Kim:

On August 14, 2014, you sent a referral package subject: Superior Foreign Exchange Company (Superior), ILR000176503, to the RCRA Branch of Region 5, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for consideration. EPA is returning this referral without action. The following is information that EPA considered in making the decision to return the referral:

- October 15, 2014: EPA civil enforcement was put on hold pending an EPA Criminal Investigation Division (EPA CID) investigation of Superior and two other facilities. This hold remained in place until October 8, 2015.
- April 1, 2015: The IEPA inspector assigned to Superior reported to EPA that the universal waste batteries stored in the building were no longer present.
- April 1, 2015: EPA called the facility manager and learned that the Superior lost its lease and was no longer in business.
- October 8, 2015: EPA was permitted by EPA CID to move forward with its civil investigation. EPA then called the prior owner of the company and discussed the status of the business. EPA learned that the owner dissolved the company on or about November 2014. Further research at the Illinois Sectary of State website confirmed that the company was dissolved on November 14, 2014.
- Lack of Authorization to Enforce Universal Waste Rules in Illinois: In addition, the referral was based on the universal waste provisions of Illinois Title 35. EPA cannot enforce those provisions because they are not part of the Illinois authorized hazardous waste program. EPA intended to use the hazardous waste provisions of 40 C.F.R. §§ 262 and 265 in a civil enforcement action, but now there is no business to enforce against.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Chachakis, of my staff, at (312) 886-9871.

Sincerely,

Gary J. Victorine, Chief

RERA Branch

cc: Todd Marvel, Illinois EPA, <u>todd.marvel@illinois.gov</u> Charlene Thigpen, Illinois EPA, <u>charlene:thigpen@illinois.gov</u>

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